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Governor Announces \$1.7 Million to Fund Brownfields Investigations in 33 Communities

DNR Grants Will Help Jump-Start Redevelopment

Governor Jim Doyle today announced grants totaling \$1.7 million to start the clean-up process of contaminated, abandoned, or underused properties in communities across the state.

The Brownfields Site Assessment Grants (SAG) provided through the Department of Natural Resources, give local governments seed money for demolition, environmental assessments, and removal of abandoned tanks and containers.

"Cleaning up brownfields is about more than just renewing vacant land – it is about renewing the pride of a community and restoring jobs," Governor Doyle said. "These redevelopments will not only create jobs and increase the attractiveness of the area, they will also add to the property tax base of these communities."

The site assessment grants will fund 50 projects that help redevelop brownfields, which are abandoned, idle, or underused industrial or commercial properties where redevelopment is hindered by real or perceived contamination.

Nearly half of the grants – 23 total – were awarded to rural communities or counties looking to spur economic growth in less populated areas. Fifteen grants – nearly a third of all awarded – went to communities with less than 5,000 people.

Small grants (up to \$30,000) make up 42 of the awards, while eight are large grants (between \$30,000 and \$100,000). The grants will provide funds for cleaning up 94 acres of land. Activities include 69 site assessments and investigations, the demolition of more than 50 buildings or structures, and the removal of more than 120 tanks, drums, and other abandoned containers.

The DNR received 69 applications totaling \$2.5 million in requests – \$800,000 more than the \$1.7 million available this fiscal year – and local governments have pledged more than \$1.1 million in additional funds for the project. The additional funding is far above the 20 percent match required through the application process.

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This is the seventh round of SAG awards. In the first six rounds, the DNR awarded more than \$8 million to 134 communities to begin investigation and cleanup at 850 acres. These activities included 468 site assessments and investigations, the removal of more than 280 underground storage tanks, and the demolition of more than 320 structures and buildings.

The legislature first authorized \$1.45 million for the SAG program in the 1999-2001 State Biennial Budget after the Brownfields Study Group, a state-wide advisory task force, recommended the program in their 1998 final report. Since then, the DNR has received 450 applications requesting \$17.8 million in brownfield assistance.

Governor Doyle has said that the cleanup and safe reuse of Brownfields properties are priorities under his *Conserve Wisconsin* plan.

The following local governments are receiving Round 7 grants.

Cities, Towns, Villages and Counties

Antigo	Rasmussen Site	\$30,000
Berlin	Fmr. Lakes States Footwear Site	\$30,000
Chilton	43 W. Main St.	\$29,500
Clintonville	WI Clock Factory Cleanup	\$99,799
Cuba City	Bulk Oil Plant	\$29,800
Village of De Soto	De Soto Shumann Development	\$24,750
Dodge County	Fmr. Metal Fab/QFG Site	\$93,000
Dodgeville	Ice Cream Dipper	\$20,000
Douglas County	New York Building Restoration	\$17,500
Edgerton	W. Lawton St.	\$22,495
Janesville	Riverside Plating Site	\$72,901*
Kaukauna	Former Gunderson Cleaners	\$30,000
Kenosha	C&L Industrial Cleaners	\$29,800
Kenosha	Crow Property	\$29,850
Kenosha	Fmr. Peter's/North American Sintered Metals	\$60,000
Kewaunee	Hamachek-Klockner Property	\$75,000
Manitowoc County	Wheeler Property	\$30,000
Marinette	Colonial Building Property	\$29,880
Mauston	LaCrosse & Union St. Redev.	\$100,000
Milwaukee	2001 W. Fond du Lac Ave.	\$13,000
Milwaukee	2235 W. North Ave.	\$14,999
Milwaukee	2019 W. Fond du Lac Ave.	\$15,000
Milwaukee	2239 N. 21st St.	\$15,000
Milwaukee	2041 W. Fond du Lac Ave.	\$15,000
Milwaukee	104 E. Nash St. – Advanced Plating	\$23,000
Milwaukee	3048 W. Galena St.	\$29,990
Milwaukee	2216 N. Teutonia Ave.	\$29,991
Mineral Point	IOCO Property #87	\$29,320
Town of Pence	Powers Building	\$17,000
Phillips	Elk Lake Park	\$10,000
Richland County	Fred Anderson Property	\$20,000

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St. Francis	St. Francis Auto Wreckers	\$29,998
Taylor County	115 E. Main St. Development	\$25,000
Village of Waunakee	Waunakee Auto Body	\$29,500
Village of Waunakee	Clemens Bus Company	\$29,880
West Allis	Pioneer Neighborhood Redev.	\$29,750
Town of Westford	Wastlick Salvage Yard Site	\$30,000
Town of Windsor	Depot St. Revitalization	\$29,880
Town of Windsor	Morrisonville Depot	\$30,000
Winnebago County	Fmr. American Quality Fibers	\$15,000

Redevelopment and Community Development Authorities (RDAs and CDAs)

Brodhead CDA	Walder Property Redev.	\$79,300
Merrill RDA	Fmr. Antique Store, Dry Cleaner	\$30,000
RDA City of Milwaukee	Wisconsin Color Press	\$2,141*
RDA City of Milwaukee	1630 N. 31st St.	\$16,999
RDA City of Milwaukee	1624 N. 31st St.	\$17,000
RDA City of Milwaukee	2925 W. Lisbon Ave.	\$29,990
RDA City of Milwaukee	Soccer Field, Tandem Transport	\$29,992
RDA City of Milwaukee	502-04 W. Cherry St.	\$29,995
Shullsberg RDA	Fmr. RR Depot, Coal Storage	\$29,000
West Bend RDA	Riverfront Redevelopment	\$100,000

*Indicates partial funding